

Hampton Municipal Budget Committee

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2015

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Selectmen's Meeting Room

Budget Committee Members Present

Brian Lapham, Vice Chairman

Phil Bean, Selectman Representative

Nicholas Bridle

Sunny Kravitz

Timothy "Citizen" Jones

Michael Pierce

Michael Plouffe

Stephen LaBranche

Scott Blair

Sandra Nickerson

Absent (excused)

Eileen Latimer, Chairman

James O'Loughlin

Robert Ladd, Hampton Village Precinct Representative

Jerry Znoj, School Board Representative SAU 90

David Wood, State Representative

- 1) Vice Chairman Lapham called the meeting to order at 7:00
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Moment of silence for the loss of Peter Trainor
- 4) Introduction of Members

Vice chairman Lapham said we had someone come forward who knows what is going on; Sandra Nickerson applied for the open seat.

Mr. Jones MOTIONED to nominate Sandra Nickerson for the open seat on the Budget Committee SECONDED by Stephen LaBranche.

Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

Mr. Jones suggested that Ms. Nickerson be sworn in now as the Town Clerk is present.

Jane Cypher, Town Clerk swore in Sandra Nickerson to the Budget Committee.

5) Open Discussion

Sandra Nickerson MOVED to open the discussion SECONDED by Sunny Kravitz.

Vote: 10 yes, 0 no, 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman Lapham said will not be meeting with the Conservation Committee until 11/12/15. Remember also these are only reviews and we will not be moving anything tonight, but are here to hear any presentations that are necessary and will be meeting at the final review for the final vote.

6) Town Beautification

Mr. Jones said we do not need a presentation.

Town Manager Welch said we if you would like a presentation we can do one.

Vice Chairman Lapham said he was wondering if there were any changes.

Town Manager Welch said there were no changes.

7) Patriotic Purposes

No changes.

8) Town Clerk, Jane Cyphers

Ms. Cyphers said rather than go through the budget line by line, that it would be better to highlight the changes. The budget is divided into 3 sections: Town Clerk, Voter Register and Election Administration. The increases under Town Clerk are under part-time wages; requesting funding for a new part-time file clerk for 16 hours per week @ \$11.00 per hour; town clerk wages 9% increase; increase in

overtime wages. Increases under the Voter Registration section are part-time wages. Increases under the Election Administration are ballot clerk wages. Town meeting expense, the food service was increased from one session to 4 @ \$600 each, increasing the line item by \$1,800. Under Election expense the coding for the memory card brings the line item to \$21,150 from \$17,850 last year. Bottom line presented is \$252,384 which is 9% more than 2015 mostly because of the increase in the number of elections.

9) Tax Collector, Donna Bennett

Ms. Bennett said her bottom line budget total is \$102,573, which is a 2% increase from last year; the total has gone up \$2,080. All the changes are based on the past spending history. The line item that is going up is the elected official's wages, which have included the 9% increase.

10) Board of Selectman, Town Manager Welch

Mr. Jones said the budget is up 5.16%.

Town Manager Welch said yes supplies and expenses are up, salaries are the same.

Mr. Jones said supplies and expenses are up 160%.

Town Manager Welch said we are going in a 5th year on a default budget, and the expenses have gone up a little bit over that 5 year period. They send flowers to officials that have passed away as a memorial to them; also travel to meetings in Concord which use gas, tolls and parking.

Mr. Blair said it is 160% increase over the \$500 in the default budget; they spent \$1,298 in 2014; through September have spent \$967 so on track to spend \$1,300 again, so it is prudent to put the \$1,300 in the budget.

Vice Chairman Lapham said we should not be looking at percentages, should be looking at dollars.

Stephen LaBranche MOTIONED to adjourn SECONDED by Timothy "Citizen" Jones at 8:55 p.m.

Vote: 10 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Latimer, Chairman

T. Y., Secretary